United Nations A/RES/56/112

General Assembly

Distr.: General
12 February 2002

Fifty-sixth session
Agenda item 20 (*b*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/56/L.60 and Add.1)*]

56/112. Emergency assistance to the Sudan

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 54/96 J of 17 December 1999 and its previous resolutions on emergency assistance to the Sudan,

Reaffirming its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991 on strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian emergency assistance of the United Nations,

Bearing in mind its resolution 55/175 of 19 December 2000 on the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel,

Welcoming agreed conclusions 1998/1 of the Economic and Social Council, adopted by the Council at the humanitarian segment of its substantive session of 1998,[1] in which, among other things, the Council reaffirmed that international cooperation to address emergency situations should be provided in accordance with international law and national laws, and that the affected State has the primary role in the initiation, organization, coordination and implementation of humanitarian assistance within its territory,

Welcoming also agreed conclusions 1999/1 of the Economic and Social Council,[2] in which the Council addressed the theme of "International cooperation and coordinated responses to humanitarian emergencies, in particular in the transition from relief to rehabilitation, reconstruction and development", during its second humanitarian segment,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on humanitarian assistance to the Sudan,[3]

Welcoming the decision of the Government of the Sudan to provide access to the Nuba Mountains and recent efforts towards its implementation, noting in that regard the results of the inter-agency needs-assessment mission undertaken by the

---

[1] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/53/3), chap. VII, para. 5.

[2] Ibid., *Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/54/3/Rev.1), chap. VI, para. 5.

[3] A/56/412.

United Nations, and calling upon all parties to continue to cooperate with the United Nations in meeting the needs identified in that assessment,

Noting with concern existing obstacles to the delivery of humanitarian assistance, welcoming the agreements reached by the parties to Operation Lifeline Sudan, among them the Rome protocol, and noting the arrangements reached on 15 August 2001 between the Government of the Sudan and the United Nations inter-agency mission on the modalities of access for the Operation, aimed at facilitating delivery of relief assistance to affected populations, as well as the progress made by the Emergency Relief Coordinator and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat in strengthening the coordination of the Operation,

Urging United Nations agencies, non-governmental organizations and donor countries to continue contributing and channelling their humanitarian assistance to all affected populations in the Sudan through Operation Lifeline Sudan,

Expressing concern at the continued conflict in the Sudan and its negative impact on the humanitarian situation,

Noting the ongoing peace efforts under the auspices of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, and the initiative of Egypt and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya for achieving a negotiated and lasting peace in the Sudan,

Noting with appreciation the contributions for the inter-agency appeal for Operation Lifeline Sudan and the progress made in the Operation, and noting also that considerable relief needs still remain to be addressed, including assistance to combat diseases such as malaria and assistance for logistic needs, emergency recovery, rehabilitation and development,

Expressing concern at the damaging consequences of floods and drought that have occurred in various parts of the Sudan in recent years,

Calling for an early resolution to the conflict, and expressing concern that its continuation further increases the suffering of the civilian population and undermines the effectiveness of international, regional and national humanitarian assistance,

Reaffirming the need for all parties to continue to facilitate the work of humanitarian organizations in implementing emergency assistance, in particular the supply of food, medicine, shelter and health care, and to ensure safe and unhindered access to all affected populations,

Recognizing the need in emergency situations to ensure the smooth transition from relief to rehabilitation and development so as to reduce dependence on external food aid and other relief services,

1. *Acknowledges with appreciation* the cooperation by the Government of the Sudan with the United Nations, including the agreements and arrangements achieved to facilitate relief operations with a view to improving the conditions for United Nations assistance to the population in the affected areas, encourages the continuation of that cooperation, and calls upon all parties to the conflict to agree to comprehensive and permanent humanitarian ceasefire arrangements in order to ensure the delivery of relief assistance;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the donor community, United Nations agencies and governmental and non-governmental organizations for the contributions so far made to the humanitarian needs of the Sudan, and calls upon

them to continue their assistance, in particular by responding to the consolidated appeal and providing support for programmes in the Nuba Mountains;

3. *Stresses* the need for Operation Lifeline Sudan to be operated and managed with a view to ensuring its efficiency, transparency and effectiveness, with the full involvement and cooperation of the Government of the Sudan, taking cognizance of the relevant Operation Lifeline Sudan agreements reached by the parties, as well as consultations in the preparation of the consolidated annual inter-agency appeal for the Operation;

4. *Recognizes* the need for Operation Lifeline Sudan to be conducted in strict adherence to the principles of neutrality and impartiality and within the principles of national sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Sudan, and within the framework of international cooperation, in accordance with the relevant provisions of international law;

5. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to contribute generously to the emergency needs, recovery and development of the Sudan, and urges all parties to the conflict to facilitate the achievement of those objectives;

6. *Urges* the international community to give assistance for the rehabilitation of transportation means and infrastructure vital for the provision of relief supplies in the Sudan and their cost-effectiveness, and in that context stresses the importance of continued cooperation by all the parties involved so as to facilitate and improve the delivery of relief supplies;

7. *Calls upon* the donor community and the organizations of the United Nations system to provide financial, technical and medical assistance, guided by the actions called for by the General Assembly in its relevant resolutions, to combat such diseases as malaria and other epidemics in the Sudan;

8. *Welcomes* the recent visit, upon invitation from the Government of the Sudan, of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on internally displaced persons, as well as the commitment of the Government to continue its efforts to address the problem of internally displaced persons;

9. *Urges* the international community to continue to support national and international programmes of rehabilitation, voluntary resettlement and reintegration of returnees and internally displaced persons, as well as assistance to refugees;

10. *Stresses* the imperative of ensuring the safety and security of humanitarian personnel, as well as safe and unhindered access for providing relief assistance to all affected populations, and the importance of strict observance of the principles and guidelines of Operation Lifeline Sudan, and of international humanitarian law reaffirming the necessity for humanitarian personnel to respect the national laws of the Sudan;

11. *Recognizes* the need for a peaceful resolution to the conflict, and urges the parties to work towards that end;

12. *Urges* all parties involved to continue to offer all feasible and necessary assistance, including facilitating the movement of relief supplies and personnel, so as to guarantee the success of Operation Lifeline Sudan in all affected parts of the country, with special emphasis on national capacity-building in the humanitarian field for governmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as on meeting emergency relief needs;

13. *Calls upon* all parties to respect international humanitarian law on the protection of civilians during times of war, and in that connection condemns attacks against civilians and attacks against and detention of humanitarian personnel, including the incidents leading to the deaths of fifteen humanitarian workers in the last two years, and calls for appropriate investigations into all allegations surrounding such incidents;

14. *Recalls* the signing by the Government of the Sudan of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction,[4] urges all parties to the conflict to desist from using them, calls upon the international community to refrain from supplying mines to the region, and urges the international community and United Nations agencies to provide appropriate assistance related to mine action in the Sudan;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to mobilize and coordinate resources and support for Operation Lifeline Sudan, and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the emergency situation in the affected areas and the recovery, rehabilitation and development of the Sudan.

87th plenary meeting
14 December 2001

[4] See CD/1478.